

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 4, 5 and 9-14 as follows. A marked-up version of those claims showing the changes made thereto, is attached. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently being amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience. In keeping with the changes to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 to implement the Patent Business Goals, the claims that are not presently being amended will not have a parenthetical expression following the claim number.

1. (Three Times Amended) A document processing system comprising:

document retaining means for retaining a plurality of folders each storing at least one document;

candidate folder selecting means for selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for retaining a new document by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of the documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders; and

notifying means for providing notification of the candidate folder selected by said candidate folder selecting means.

3. A document processing system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the new document are selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

4. (Three Times Amended) A document processing system comprising:

judging means for judging a similarity degree between document information and a plurality of sets of information of documents stored in a folder;

similarity order calculating means for calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity judged by said judging means; and

notifying means for providing notification of the similarity order of the plurality of folders calculated by said similarity order calculating means.

5. (Three Times Amended) A document processing system comprising:

retaining means for retaining a plurality of folders each storing a plurality of sets of document information;

selecting means for selecting a folder from among said plurality of folders based on a number of sets of document information containing a keyword inputted as a search condition; and

notifying means for providing notification of the folder selected by said folder determining means.

8. A document processing system according to Claim 5, wherein said selecting means selects the folder through statistical estimation using the number of information sets of documents belonging to the folder and the number of documents matching the search condition.

9. (Three Times Amended) A document processing method comprising the steps of:

retaining a plurality of folders each storing at least one document;

selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for retaining a new document by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of the documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders; and

providing notification of the candidate folder selected in said selecting step.

10. (Three Times Amended) A document processing method comprising the steps of:

judging a similarity degree between document information and a plurality of sets of information of documents stored in a folder;

calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity judged in said judging step; and

providing notification of the similarity order of the plurality of folders calculated in said calculating step.

11. (Three Times Amended) A document processing method comprising the steps of:

retaining a plurality of folders each storing a plurality of sets of document information;

selecting a plurality of folders from among the plurality of folders based on a number of sets of document information containing a keyword inputted as a search condition; and

providing notification of the folder selected in said selecting step.

12. (Three Times Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing programs executing the steps of:

- retaining a plurality of folders each storing at least one document;
- selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for retaining a new document by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of the documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders;
- and

providing notification of the candidate folder selected in said selecting step.

13. (Three Times Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing programs executing the steps of:

- judging a similarity degree between document information and a plurality of sets of information of documents stored in a folder;
- calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity judged in said judging step; and

providing notification of the similarity order of the plurality of folders calculated in said calculating step.

14. (Three Times Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing programs executing the steps of:

retaining a first plurality of folders each storing a plurality of sets of document information;

selecting a second plurality of folders from among the first plurality of folders based on a number of ~~sets of document information containing a keyword inputted as~~ a search condition; and

providing notification of a particular folder selected in said selecting step.

15. A method according to claim 9, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the new document are selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

16. A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving

the new document are selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

17. A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

18. A system according to claim 1, wherein the document includes vector data.

19. A system according to claim 1, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

20. A system according to claim 1, wherein said notifying means displays a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

21. A system according to claim 1, wherein the document includes text data.

22. A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

23. A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

24. A method according to claim 9, wherein the ~~document includes vector data.~~

25. A method according to claim 9, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

26. A method according to claim 9, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

27. A method according to claim 9, wherein the document comprises text data.

28. A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

29. A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise the step of updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

30. A storage medium according to claim 12,
wherein the document includes vector data.

31. A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

32. A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

33. A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the document comprises text data.

34. A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said steps further comprise the step of causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

35. A system according to claim 4, wherein said notifying means provides notification only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

36. A system according to claim 4, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided by said notifying means.

37. A system according to claim 4, wherein said notifying means displays a label set in advance to the selected folder.

38. A system according to claim 4, wherein the document includes text data.

39. A method according to claim 10, wherein, in said notifying step, notification is provided only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

40. A method according to claim 10, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided in said notifying step.

41. A method according to claim 10, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to the selected folder.

42. A method according to claim 10, wherein the document includes text data.

43. A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein, in said notifying step, notification is provided only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

44. A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided in said notifying step.

45. A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to the selected folder.

46. A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the document includes text data.

47. A system according to claim 5, wherein said notifying means displays a label set in advance to indicate the selected folder.

48. A system according to claim 5, wherein the selected folder contains a predetermined number of folders which are highly ranked in said number.

49. A system according to claim 5, wherein said selecting means selects folders which are highly ranked in including the keyword.

50. A system according to claim 5, wherein the document information includes text data.

51. A system according to claim 5, further comprising control means for causing the selected folder to store the document information.

52. A method according to claim 11, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to indicate the selected folder.

53. A method according to claim 11, wherein the selected folder contains a predetermined number of folders which are highly ranked in said number.

54. A method according to claim 11, wherein said selecting step includes selecting folders which are highly ranked in including the keyword.

55. A method according to claim 11, wherein the document information includes text data.

56. A method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of causing the selected folder to store the document information.

57. A storage medium according to claim 14,
wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set
in advance to indicate the selected folder.

58. A storage medium according to claim 14,
wherein the selected folder contains a predetermined number
of folders which are highly ranked in said number.

59. A storage medium according to claim 14,
wherein said selecting step includes selecting folders which
are highly ranked in including the keyword.

60. A storage medium according to claim 14,
wherein the document information includes text data.

61. A storage medium according to claim 14,
wherein said steps further comprise the step of causing the
selected folder to store the document information.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5 and 8-61 are pending in this
application. Claims 1, 4, 5 and 9-14, which are the
independent claims, have been amended so as to define still